

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, July 24, 1880.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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Postage free to all subscribers.

Collectors' Notices.

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Dr. Tanner.

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An exchange says the Doctor may be a fool and a fanatic, but those most emphatic in denying his assumptions and in condemning his course concede that he is honest. He is on trial, and he should be tried fairly. Men who desire to watch him closely have an opportunity to do so, and they should avail themselves of it before accusing him of deception and trickery. The public may have little sympathy with a man who undertakes such an experiment, but it has less with those who are over hasty in jumping to the conclusion that, because a man attempts to do what they believe is impossible, he is necessarily a fraud.

Dr. Tanner solemnly declares that he has fasted for over forty days, and that he can do it again. Many physicians, basing their opinions on a long line of experiences, precepts, and facts, declare that the limit of a fast without food or sustenance of any sort is ten days, and they believe that in the natural order Dr. Tanner must soon die. Believing this earnestly, they occupy a delicate position, but they should not attempt to escape from it by casting reflections on the man who earnestly believes that he can do what to other men seems impossible.

The accepted theory is that when entirely deprived of nutriment, the human body is capable of supporting life under ordinary circumstances about nine days. The experiment was tried on the person of the fasting girl in South Wales in 1868. The parents of this girl made the assertion that she had eaten no food for two years. Many of their friends believed this, and, to demonstrate the truth of the statements made, they hired four hospital nurses to keep close watch over the girl. Rather than admit the deception they had practiced, the parents allowed their daughter to die, she living only eight days after the watch began. The parents were tried for manslaughter and convicted, but no action was taken against those who contributed to the girl's death by instituting a close watch.

Four men and a boy shut up in a mine shaft, South Wales, in 1871, lived ten days without food, and, on their release, were able to walk. The conditions of the mine in this case were believed to be favorable to fasting. After the first few days the men felt none of the severe pangs of hunger, and resisted all temptation to eat their canaries.

In 1874 three men and two boys were exposed in an open boat for thirty-two days with only ten days' provisions. In the delirium of starvation they had a fight, and one of them being wounded bailed the blood as it flowed from the wound in his own arm. This gave him new strength, instead of weakening him, and prolonged his life. A French physiologist fed starving dogs on blood taken from their own veins, and prolonged life to the fourteenth day, or four days longer than in case of dogs not bled.

A great many well-authenticated cases are recorded in the medical journals in which persons have fasted from ten to twelve days. Insane persons are on record as having lived six weeks and two months without touching or tasting food placed before them. In 1863 for Belgian miners lived twenty-three days on water. Dr. Hammond cites a case in which a young man lived sixty days on orange juice.

Among cases similar to that of Dr. Tanner was that of Reuben Kelsey, a young student of Herkimer County, New York, who, in 1827, under the influence of strong religious feeling, abstained from all food, drinking only water, for fifty-three days. There was no reason for deception in his case, as he was not fasting with any idea of testing his endurance.

Omit this case, and the precedents are all against Dr. Tanner. Credit the experience of Kelsey, and it is not impossible that Tanner may, under the same conditions, live as long he did.

Herbert Spencer, in his "Principles of Sociology," and Taylor, in his "Primitive Culture," advance the theory that "fasting originated in the desire of the primitive man to bring on all at will certain abnormal nervous conditions favorable to the seeing of those visions and the dreaming of those dreams which are supposed to give the soul direct access to the objective realities of the spiritual world." The old philosophers resorted to fasting as a means of exalting the higher faculties at the expense of the lower, and Jews and Christians made fasting a work of reverence toward God. There are chronicled many cases in which religious devotees and enthusiasts lived many weeks with little or no food. To a man of Dr. Tanner's temperament, these stories or traditions would be weighty as undisputed facts. He believes that he has fasted forty-two days to his benefit, and believes that he does it again. Whether a man should be allowed to sacrifice himself to an ideal like this is a debatable question.

At noon on Wednesday, Dr. Tanner was in good condition, with no marked variation of pulse or temperature. He drank freely of spring water and answered six letters.

The regular session of the Executive Council will be held on Tuesday, August 3d, at 10 o'clock, A. M. There are quite a number of applications for pardons to come before the Council, which, with other matters, will engross their attention for several days.

The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of Col. M. V. B. Chase. He is in want of agents in all parts of the State. Constant employment and good wages will be paid.

Sudden Death. Charles Sawtelle of Bangor, an old and respected citizen of that place, was found dead in bed Friday morning. Heart disease was the cause.

Political Notes.

The Vermont Greenback State Committee is preparing to organize in every section, and make a vigorous campaign throughout the State.

The New Hampshire Republicans, electing Henry H. Huse, of Manchester, chairman; Geo. E. Jenks of Concord, Secretary; the Executive Committee, with Senator Rollins, chairman, were appointed. It was decided to hold the State Convention Sept. 7. Dates were also fixed for the Congressional and County Conventions, the former Sept. 15. Voted that the Presidential electors be nominated, two by the State Convention and one from each Congressional.

The Irish National Republican Convention met at Indianapolis July 14th. Delegates were present from Kentucky, Virginia, Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin and New York. Judge A. S. Morrison of Illinois, was chosen temporary chairman. He urged short speeches, as he was of the opinion that it was better to be chosen than to be elected.

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The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, July 21.

Amount of stock at market, 5139; Sheep and Lambs 7000; Swine 11170; number of Western Cattle 4928; Eastern Cattle 66; Mich Cattle 1000; Sheep 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality \$5 37 1/2¢; 62 1/2¢; first quality \$5 00¢; 22¢; second quality \$4 71 1/4¢; 45¢; third quality \$3 12 1/2¢; 37 1/2¢; fourth quality of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., \$3 20¢; 25¢.

Brighton Hides \$1 1/2 per lb.; Brighton Tallow \$1 50¢ per lb.; Country Hides 7 1/2¢ per lb.; Country Tallow \$1 50¢ per lb.; Cal Skins 12 1/2¢ per lb.; Sheeped Tallow \$1 25¢ per lb.; Sheeped Wool Skins \$0 60¢ per lb.

GRAN.—Corn is quiet at \$3 65¢ per bushel, as to quality, for new and old. Oats are still selling for No 1 and extra white at \$4 15¢; No 2 white at \$4 00¢; No 3 white and No 2 mixed at \$3 80¢.

In Rye small sales at 1 00¢ per bushel.

Shoats are firm at 16 50¢ per bbl., and Feed Corn in fair demand and sales at \$2 20¢ per bbl.

In Rye the sales have been

small, in small lots at \$4 50¢ per bbl.

Oil on Rye is firm and sales at \$4 00¢ per bbl.

Wool Skins \$2 00¢ per lb.

SALE OF CATTLE.

Live Average

No. Price, weight, weight

A. N. Monroe 16 85 50 1420

do 20 50 1415

do 17 5 30 1415

do 45 5 20 1215

do 20 5 10 1215

do 30 5 25 1276

do 22 5 05 1185

do 57 4 80 1208

do 17 4 85 1185

do 17 5 20 1000

do 18 5 20 1180

do 18 5 20 1050

do 9 4 50 1254

do 9 4 50 1254

J. B. Cook & Co. 32 5 15 1100

do 19 4 20 1250

do 10 5 20 1250

do 10 5 20 1250

E. F. Earll 20 50 1175

The trade for Beef Cattle opened an

advance in prices to 10¢ per lb. over the ob-

literated stock age. The trade was

modestly better, and the market

was firm at 10¢ per lb. for City and Western,

including steers and kettle rendered.

Smoked and baconed steers

are selling at \$10 10¢ per lb. for City

and Western, and 11 10¢ for fancy Wes-

tern.

PRODUCE. Cheese is firm and higher,

and has been steadily advanced with

sales of 10¢ per lb. for cheese and 14¢ per

and yellow eyes at \$2 25¢ per 20 lb.

The latter are very scarce, and extra lots

would bring an advance on these prices.

The cheese with yellow eyes have

been at 16 10¢; Canada and Prince

Edward Island at 15 10¢; and Western

at 14 10¢ per dozen. The cheese

at 15 10¢ are the quotations from

Northern and Eastern.

The market for pea beans and the market

is quiet, firm and steady, and sales with

few changes, with a slight advance.

Wool—Owens. A few pairs each week

is all the markets require at this season of

the year. As soon as Cattle commence

coming in more freely from Maine the

market will revive. I quote

about 1 per cent. of 6 10¢ per lb. live weight

at 5 10¢ per lb. and has been

in steady demand at 5 25¢ per ton.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, July 21.

Flour—There is a steady but moderate demand for flour, and prices unchanged; domestic \$4 25¢; for Western \$4 25¢; for New England \$4 25¢; for common extra \$4 25¢; for Wisconsin extra; and \$4 25¢ per bbl. for Minnesota extra, including brands of winter wheats ranging from \$5 25¢ to \$10 00 per bbl. and \$5 50¢ to \$25 for Illinois and Indiana; and \$5 75¢ to \$7 for St. Louis; patent W. Cousin and Minnesota spring wheats have been quoted at \$4 25¢ per bbl.; and winter wheats at \$4 25¢ per bbl.; and

flour in fair demand and sales at \$2 20¢

per bbl. Corn in fair demand and sales at \$2 20¢

per bbl. Feed Corn at \$1 10¢ per bbl.

Provisions—The demand for Pork is

moderate and prices steady; we quote

prime at \$11 00¢ to 12 50¢; mess at

\$11 00¢ to 12 50¢; and extra clear, at

\$11 00¢ to 12 50¢ per bbl. for mess and extra clear.

GRAN.—Corn is quiet at \$3 65¢ per bushel, as to quality, for new and old. Oats are still selling for No 1 and extra white at \$4 15¢; No 2 white and No 2 mixed at \$4 00¢.

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Wool—Mark.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, July 21.

The sales comprise \$36,000 lbs Michigan at 40¢; No 1 and No 2; and 45¢; No 3 at 45¢; No 4 at 50¢; No 5 at 55¢; No 6 at 60¢; No 7 at 65¢; No 8 at 70¢; No 9 at 75¢; No 10 at 80¢; No 11 at 85¢; No 12 at 90¢; No 13 at 95¢; No 14 at 100¢; No 15 at 105¢; No 16 at 110¢; No 17 at 115¢; No 18 at 120¢; No 19 at 125¢; No 20 at 130¢; and No 21 at 135¢.

Spring Calves at 45¢ per lb.

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Poetry.

One Summer's Day.

I walked through a pleasant valley
Many a day when my life was young,
And woodbine and wild roses
Over my pathway hung.

And down at my feet a streamlet
And the flowers beat low in bosen,
And a west wind blew along.

The sunbeams danced on its waters,
And I said, "I will go forward
And where it sinks to rest.

The gloom of the forest deep,
The sunbeams shone on every side,
And the streamlet drew me on,
And dark was the reading tide.

No longer the rose and woodbine
Left the light of the love of love,
For there was no way to go,
And black was the sky above.

I stood silent, the drooping willows,
The green brooks no more;
And I lost it in the gloom;

In the torrent's angry roar.

Alas for the sparkling streamlet—
As the days grew slowly by.

Our Story Teller.

“CHALK YOUR OWN DOOR.”

His proper name was Jeremiah Mardon, but he had not been in the village a week before everybody called him Jerry, and within six weeks he was known as Jerry Mardon. But why? Mudder!

The giver is unknown—for who knows the givers of nicknames?—but the reason for the name was that Jerry was always making up stories.

He was a very good shoemaker, but he stood no chance with George Stevens, a sober man, and so drifted into becoming a cobbler.

Jerry's one idea was to get a job, and having done it, to invest the proceeds in drink at his favorite beer shop. "The Gram Atta." The consequence was that Jerry was sold out, so he had to be possessed of an iron constitution to earn a life most have killed him; but he dragged on, working to-day and idling to-morrow, and when he was through, he could be got.

His score at "The Gram Atta" was a large one, and the chalks stood up against him like files of soldiers; but Jerry ignored them, and lay about on a little now and then, and drinking more and more, increasing the army of debt against him.

One evening Mr. Richard, the landlord of the aforesaid "Gram Atta," cried: "What you're very well, Jerry," he said at last.

"Never feel better in my life," replied Jerry. "I wish you could say the same for me."

"I've got a bit of a cold," replied the other, "and I've been shut up a good deal with business lately. Trade's been brisk; but we're in it we've not seen Jerry."

"Yes, sir; have the goodness to turn round and look behind you. There's my friend, sir," said Jerry, rubbing his chin. "I've been busy working off your score."

"It is done, man," said Mr. Rewitt, clutching the chalks. "The chalk is quite clean, as far as you are concerned."

"I am glad of that."

"Others have got their share," said the other, facetiously; "but I think we could make room for you if you look out."

"Work is slack," murmured Jerry. "But the harvest is coming on, and then every body will have their sowing and healing done, and I shall be able to pay you off."

"Perhaps," replied Mr. Rewitt; "but you will have to pay me as you can do to square off what is up there. Let me tell you, these chalks are a standing debt at a great sum, man. You ought to be ashamed of yourself."

Jerry looked at the accusing marks, and really felt astagh at the long list against him. The inner door of the bar was a regular blackboard, and he trembled before it.

Now when Jerry first came to "The Gram Atta," the landlord was very pert, but, like, and spoke as softly as you please to him. "I've heard you're unusually enterprising to fly into his neighbor's house and have been more oily-tongued or sharper than ever; a persuasive smile—that is presuming the spider to do which is just possible; but when Jerry gets to the toils, and had been well confined in the web, mine host put another chalk in the set."

"If you drink," he said, "you must expect to pay for it." My brewer would stand no nonsense from me, and I must have my money from you."

"Only one pint," pleaded poor Jerry.

"No half a pint," replied the landlord. Go home and sleep, and pay your debts like a man."

The entrance of a customer with ready money cut short the conversation, and Jerry stopped a pace or two while the other was being served. When that was done, and the beer droned on, he turned to Jerry, "I've made a final appeal."

"I've been a good customer to you, Mr. Rewitt; not every penny I've earned has come into your till. I've high lived on beer, if living it can be called, and my wife and children have had to shift what they could for bread."

"That's nothing to me," said the landlord.

"Let me have one pint."

"Have you the impudence to ask for it with that shameful lot of chalks staring you in the face?"

Jerry did not reply, but he took a long and earnest look at the recording file, and drawing his hand across his dry mouth, "There's nothing to be done," he said, "but I fancy it will be a little too much for the dimer coming from the bakerhouse."

"That's Jerry's lookout," replied Mr. Rewitt, coolly. "If he can't afford it, he shouldn't drink."

The subject was mentioned, and Jerry forgot the noise and bustle of the usual evening business. About the clock Jerry's wife, to the astonishment of both Mr. Rewitt and the landlord, appeared in the bar, not as they supposed, for drink."

"My husband has been here," she said, "he has a heavy score here."

"I'm almost too busy to tell you," replied the landlord, "but if I could, I will reckon it up."

"It is pressing, and I shall be very thankful if you will let me know at once what it is," replied the poor woman, who was in debt, was down and pale, and almost justified the title of "skeleton," which Mrs. Rewitt had given her.

The landlord went through the chalks twice, and then said, "Jerry, I am indebted to him to the amount of two pounds, seventeen shillings and four pence."

Jerry's wife received the amount, and the landlord took off his look of quiet dismay, thanked the landlord, and left.

"I suppose she is thinking of making an effort to pay it off?" said Mr. Rewitt, smiling better half, "and I hope she will; but I fancy it will be a little too much for her."

For a whole week nothing was seen of her, except Jerry; but at the end of that time his wife appeared, laid down five shillings on the counter.

"Will you please take off that amount, sir?" she said, "and give me a receipt?"

He was as white as a gracious smile, and Jerry was moved. Mr. Rewitt announced his having laid out right in the head of the wife of the cobbler was making an effort to clear off her husband's debts.

At the end of another week a second five shillings was paid, and the poorest customer, as at that time he gathers in, was still his master's customer to procure. He resolved to look up Jerry as an other instalment of his account was paid.

Nothing was brought for a fortnight, and the landlord, disconsolate, himself upon not having hastily seen his absent customer, who still owed him one pound, and the appearance of Jerry's wife with the boy, the effect of making him think otherwise, was no display put in, down the moment he was quickly done—but the happy light in the woman's eye as she took the receipt, spoke more than mere words.

"I have been hasty with you," said Mr. Rewitt, when another whole month had elapsed without Jerry appearing; "he promised to pay at his earliest time, and he did it; but I have offered him 'The Green Goose' has caught his customer."

"I am to see to it, wife, give me a patch on the boot, and it will be an excuse for my dropping him."

"That much is a job for him, seeing that you give George Stevens the best of the work," said Mrs. Rewitt.

"Stevens works better than Jerry," replied his husband; "you can always trust him to do his work when it is promised, but Jerry keeps the things for weeks together."

"That's true; but I've got a pair of boots that want to fronts, and I can wait a week or two. Take both," said Richard Rewitt; "nothing like baiting your hook while you are."

Armed for the reconquest of Jerry, the landlord set forth in the morning—dressed in a suit of clothes, and a broadsword at his side. Outside were a couple of loafers, who were a good deal of trouble, and no credit, who touched them hate to him. Mr. Rewitt waited them with a sort of fury in Jerry's cottage was in the middle of the village, standing back about fifty feet from the road; and although his house was well known, the outside character of Jerry's wife, looked quite as well as his wife, looked too, and the actuality had a name.

Mr. Rewitt was so overcome by the change that he stood still with the boots in his hand, forgetting that they formed part of his equipment.

"You look very well, Jerry," he said at last.

"Never feel better in my life," replied Jerry. "I wish you could say the same for me."

"I've got a bit of a cold," replied the other, "and I've been shut up a good deal with business lately. Trade's been brisk; but we're in it we've not seen Jerry."

"Yes, sir; have the goodness to turn round and look behind you. There's my friend, sir," said Jerry, rubbing his chin. "I've been busy working off your score."

"It is done, man," said Mr. Rewitt, clutching the chalks. "The chalk is quite clean, as far as you are concerned."

"I am glad of that."

"Others have got their share," said the other, facetiously; "but I think we could make room for you if you look out."

"Work is slack," murmured Jerry. "But the harvest is coming on, and then every body will have their sowing and healing done, and I shall be able to pay you off."

"Perhaps," replied Mr. Rewitt; "but you will have to pay me as you can do to square off what is up there. Let me tell you, these chalks are a standing debt at a great sum, man. You ought to be ashamed of yourself."

Jerry looked at the accusing marks, and really felt astagh at the long list against him. The inner door of the bar was a regular blackboard, and he trembled before it.

Now when Jerry first came to "The Gram Atta," the landlord was very pert, but, like, and spoke as softly as you please to him. "I've heard you're unusually enterprising to fly into his neighbor's house and have been more oily-tongued or sharper than ever; a persuasive smile—that is presuming the spider to do which is just possible; but when Jerry gets to the toils, and had been well confined in the web, mine host put another chalk in the set."

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